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December 29, 1911

depression. "In 1908-9," says the report, "there was a failure of the crops, and reported deaths from this cause (plague) were 13,814. In 1909-10 agricultural conditions were good and deaths increased to 141,357. The year 1910-11 was a year of exceptional prosperity, and the number of deaths was found to be excessive. An explanation of this remarkable variation may be found in the theory that as an increased food supply resulting from good harvests leads to an increase in the rat population, it consequently tends to the spread of plague. It has been observed that early and heavy winter rains and the prevalence of cold damp weather synchronize with an increase in the severity of the epidemic."

#### Calcutta—Cholera and Plague.

Acting Assist. Surg. Allan Reports November 23: During the week ended November 4, 48 deaths from cholera and 6 from plague were reported in Calcutta; in all Bengal, 90 cases of plague with 63 deaths; in all India, 11,396 cases with 8,367 deaths.

#### ITALY.

##### Decrease in Prevalence of Cholera.

The official cholera bulletin issued by the Italian Government for the period from November 12 to 18 shows a total of 94 cases, with 51 deaths occurring during that period throughout the entire country. These figures show a decrease of 20 cases from the number reported during the preceding week. Three more provinces, viz, Bari, Palermo, and Sassari, are reported to be entirely free from cholera.

##### Palermo Declared Free From Cholera.

Consul de Soto reports November 28: According to information received from the Italian ministry of the interior the city and province of Palermo were declared free from cholera November 18.

##### Naples—Examination of Emigrants.

Passed Asst. Surg. Robinson reports December 5:

##### NAPLES.

Date.	Name of ship.	Destination.	Steerage passengers inspected and passed.	Pieces of baggage inspected and passed.	Pieces of baggage disinfected.
Nov. 27 29	Canopic..... Iniziativa.....	Boston..... New York.....	431	90	560
	Total.....		431	90	560

##### PALERMO.

Nov. 27	Valsalice.....	New Orleans.....		
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#### ROUMANIA.

##### Certain Localities Declared Free From Cholera.

Consul General Harvey, at Bucharest, reports November 27, that the city of Galatz and the district of Covurlui, in Roumania, have been declared free from cholera.